

COUNCIL BRIEFS

October 21, 2016

Park Road at I-84 (Exit 43) Interchange

Improvement Project: In the coming weeks, advance utility relocation work will begin along Park Road between Thomson Road and Trout Brook Drive. This work will include the replacement of existing gas mains and the relocation of utility poles. Selective tree removal work is also planned to facilitate the utility pole relocation work. Lane closures will be in place and motorists are advised to seek alternate routes and avoid the exit 43 interchange when possible.

This advance utility work will facilitate the roadway construction portion of the Park Road at I-84 (Exit 43) Interchange Improvement Project which is expected to begin in the Spring/Summer 2017. More information, go to [www.westhartfordct.gov/Park Road](http://www.westhartfordct.gov/Park_Road)

Teen Center attendance grows because of one

man: Jonathan Merritt, who runs the West Hartford Teen Center at Elmwood Community Center, is known as a kid magnet because of his dynamic personality, a combination of humor, calm, and strength. Participation at the teen center has grown significantly due to his leadership. The total number of teen visits in fiscal year 2016 was 3,202, twice as much from fiscal year 2015 when there was 1,670 visits.

In the summer, Jon does individual and group mentoring, field trips, and community service projects. Throughout the school year, he mentors elementary and middle school-aged children at the Hillcrest Area Neighborhood Outreach Center and at Smith School, Bristow, Sedgwick, and King Phillip middle schools.

The Teen Center, now in its 18th year, is sponsored by the Bridge Family Center

National Take-Back Day: On Saturday, October 22, the West Hartford Police Department, the West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District and the federal Drug Enforcement Administration will coordinate a collaborative effort to remove unwanted and

unused pharmaceutical-controlled substances and other medicine during National Take-Back Day. The collection will be held in the Town Hall parking lot from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The program is anonymous and free of charge.

Ten-Week Leaf Bag collection begins week of

October 24: The Town's leaf bag collection service begins on Monday, October 24 and will continue for ten weeks until December 30.

Only 30-gallon, biodegradable leaf bags will be collected; no plastic bags. Leaf bags should be free of grass, twigs, rocks and trash, and should not weigh more than 60 lbs. There is no limit to the number of bags a resident can place at the curb. Simply place the leaf bags at the curb by 6:00 AM on your trash collection day, and a truck will come by to pick them up.

Police Recruitment Fair and Open House:

If you always wondered what it would be like to work for the police department, here's your chance to get an inside look during WHPD's Job Fair and Open House on Saturday, October 29, 12:00-4:00 PM. The West Hartford Police Department is hiring and is hoping to attract applicants who have not previously considered a career in law enforcement. Officers will explain the hiring process, job functions and specialized divisions in the police department.

Asylum Ave. natural gas main project:

Connecticut Natural Gas is conducting a project on Asylum Avenue through parts of West Hartford and Hartford to replace obsolete facilities with state-of-the-art plastic pipe. The project scope is from Scarborough Street in Hartford to Steele Road in West Hartford. Construction on the new natural gas main is currently underway on the Hartford portion. Once the main is complete, crews will transfer existing services over to the new main during the Spring/Summer 2017. Traffic will be impacted in both directions during the main and service replacement phases.

Ronald F. Van Winkle, Town Manager